

Message Text

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61

ORIGIN NEA-10

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DRAFTED BY NEA/EGY:GGBROWN:CEK

APPROVED BY NEA/EGY - MR MATTHEWS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

UNCLAS STATE 182997

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EG

SUBJECT: SWIFT AND COMPANY - EGYPTIAN CHICKEN INDUSTRY

1. MR. G. B. GIRTON, DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL DIVISION, SWIFT AND COMPANY, VISITED THE DESK AUGUST 1. SWIFT AND COMPANY HAS HEARD ABOUT POSSIBLE EGYPTIAN INTEREST IN CHICKEN RAISING SCHEME. SWIFT WOULD BE VERY INTERESTED IN DISCUSSING SUCH A PROPOSAL WITH EGYPTIANS IF THE EGYPTIANS ARE SERIOUSLY INTERESTED. THE MINIMAL ECONOMIC PRODUCTION FOR SUCH A SCHEME WOULD NEED A MARKET FOR AT LEAST 100,000 CHICKENS PER WEEK. IS THERE ENOUGH DEMAND IN EGYPT FOR THIS MINIMAL LEVEL OF OUTPUT? SECOND QUESTION CONCERNS THE AVAILABILITY OF FOOD STOCK FOR RAISING THE CHICKENS. SWIFT INDICATED THAT POSSIBLE SOURCES OF FOOD LIKE MILO, MAZE OR CORN, WOULD NEED TO BE AVAILABLE LOCALLY GROWN IN THAT IMPORTED FOOD STOCK MAKES PRODUCTION TOO EXPENSIVE. SWIFT INDICATED SUCH A SCHEME USUALLY INVOLVES 10 MILLION DOLLARS OF WORKING CAPITAL. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION EMBASSY CAN DEVELOP ON THIS PROJECT AND THE EMBASSY'S JUDGMENT WHETHER IT WOULD UNCLASSIFIED

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BE WORTHWHILE FOR SWIFT AND COMPANY TO SEND SOMEBODY OUT

TO CAIRO TO DISCUSS IT WITH THE EGYPTIANS.

2. SWIFT DOUBTS THE FEASIBILITY OF LIVE STOCK SCHEME IN

EGYPT BUT WOULD BE INTERESTED IN OBTAINING GENERAL INFORMATION ON WHAT THE EGYPTIANS ARE PROPOSING. WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE SHORT SYNOPSIS FROM EMBASSY OF THE VARIOUS SCHEMES EGYPTIANS ARE DISCUSSING WITH COMPANIES ON LIVE-STOCK PRODUCTION. INGERSOLL

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